

Online Exercises: Chapter 10.

1. *In those days, it was much too expensive to fly anywhere, especially for me, who had only just graduated from university. I had a 60-hour train journey, during which I managed to miss my connection at Turin through trying to get to know the girl who was sitting opposite, when I should have been collecting my bag and heading for the exit. The next connection I missed was in Rome, due to lingering too long over a plate of pasta in the station restaurant. The wine might also have had something to do with it. If my future employers had known what a mess I was making of the journey, they would have had every right to fire me as soon as I arrived. Having missed my overnight sleeper to Palermo, I was undecided what to do. Booking into a hotel was tempting but my budget didn't allow for that. So I spent a complicated half hour in the booking office, where I was only able to book a series of third class local trains to Sicily. The rest of the journey gave me plenty of time to try to improve my conversational Italian, an enterprise that led to a couple of embarrassing misunderstandings. Arriving in Reggio di Calabria, I found I had bought a chicken from a farmer further down the carriage and, as we crossed the magnificent Straits of Messina, an old lady explained at length why she couldn't accept the offer of marriage she had understood me to have made her.*

- (a) Identify the **wh clauses** in the above passage, listing them as follows:

Non-restrictive relative (there are 3 of these in the passage)

Restrictive relative (4)

Interrogative (2)

Exclamatory (1)

Wh adverbial (1)

(Remember, the wh word may be covert.)

- (b) Identify all the APs that contain a clause.

- (c) Give the functions of the following expressions:

1. *Lingering too long over a plate of pasta in the station restaurant.*
2. *Having missed my overnight sleeper to Palermo.*
3. *Booking into a hotel.*
4. *To try to improve my conversational Italian.*
5. *Me to have made her.*

- (d) Draw an Abbreviated Clausal Analysis of the sentence (in the middle of the passage) that begins with *If my future employers* and ends with *arrived*.

- (e) How many clauses are there in the final sentence of the passage?

2. In Further Exercise 2(e) of this chapter, it was suggested that *too old to play* calls for an intermediate level of AP ('ADJ') in parallel with NP-NOM-N. In fact there is nothing special about *too old to play* in this. An intermediate level of AP structure is called for quite generally. For example we've dealt with *very nervous* and with *nervous of exams* but not mentioned *very nervous of exams*.

First (a) draw a phrase marker for this last AP and then - (b) and (c) - the **new** phrase markers that are now needed for *very nervous* and *nervous of exams*.

3. In Exercise 2 above we have seen the need for an intermediate level of AP structure corresponding to NP structure. The same goes for PP, as shown by *right across the river, just along the road, straight through the barrier*. By the way, the DEG adverbs *right, straight* and *just* can only occur in PP (as modifiers). But other categories can perform the same function in PP. Invent a name for the intermediate level of PP structure and draw phrase markers for the following. (d) will need a bit more thought (look at Online Exercise 2 for Chapter 7 above).

(a) *Right across the river*

(b) *Just now*

(c) *Several metres below the surface*. (See also *24 hours from Tulsa*, a song by Gene Pitney.)

(d) *Completely out of reach*.